



RECREATIONAL BEACH SURVEY

Fact Sheet:

The Recreational Beach Survey is funded by the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) as part of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coastal Health Act (BEACH Act).

The objective of the BEACH Act is to reduce risks of disease to recreational beach users. This objective will be accomplished through developing and implementing of programs to monitor coastal recreational waters for disease-causing microorganisms, and notifying the public if monitoring indicates a public health hazard. Alaska Administrative Code (18 AAC 70) Water Quality Standards establish water quality criteria and standards for recreation in marine waters. DEC is in the process of developing systematic beach monitoring and notification programs for Alaska's beaches at risk of pathogen contamination. Recreational beach activities and proximity of potential pollutant sources to recreational beaches are not known for your area.

The objective of this survey is to identify recreational-use beaches in Alaska that may be at risk of contamination by disease-causing microorganisms. We will ask you questions to provide the following information about beaches in your area:

- Types of recreational activities that occur
- Locations of the beaches where you identify recreational activity
- Seasons of use
- Levels of use
- Land ownership/jurisdiction
- Potential pollution sources

Your participation in this survey is strongly encouraged and will assure that your coastal district will be represented when decisions regarding pathogen monitoring are made. The answers you provide will be entered into a statewide survey database. Analysis of the database will aid in development of a list of recreational-use beaches in Alaska at potential risk of contamination by disease-causing microorganisms. This list will be used by DEC to determine which beaches in the state of Alaska will be selected for water-quality monitoring and public notification in the event of beach contamination.

If you have any questions or comments, or wish to submit your survey responses by phone, please call Erin Strang at (907) 451-2881 at ADEC to schedule an appointment.

Please submit the completed survey to:

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Water
c/o Erin Strang, Beach Grant Program Manager
610 University Ave.
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-5326
Phone: (907) 451-2881
Fax: (907) 451-2187
Email: erin.strang@alaska.gov

Your Name: _____

Your Location: _____

Instructions:

Please review the **Fact Sheet** (Page 1) before continuing.

For the purpose of this survey, we define a **Recreational Use Beach** as “any *shoreline* where recreational activities may bring a person into complete or partial body contact with marine water.” **NOTE:** This definition may include sections of a shoreline that do not appear to look like a sandy beach. With this definition in mind, please read each question carefully and answer to the best of your knowledge. If there is not enough room provided for you to answer all of the questions please feel free to attach additional pages.

Part A – Recreational Activities:

1. Please place an “X” in the space(s) next to the recreational activities that occur at the beaches in your coastal area.

____ Swimming/bathing
____ Beach combing/walking
____ SCUBA
____ Surfing
____ Windsurfing
____ Kayaking
____ Boating
____ Hiking
____ Camping
____ Picnicking
____ Harvesting of coastal marine resources

2. If there are any **OTHER** recreational activities **not** listed above that occur at the beaches in your coastal area, please list them here:
3. If there are **NO** recreational activities that occur at the beaches in your coastal area, the survey ends here. Thank you for your time.
4. If there **ARE** recreational activities that occur at the beaches in your coastal area, please proceed to **Part B**.

Return to:

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610 University Ave.
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-5326
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Fax: (907) 451-2187
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Part B - Recreational Use Beaches:

For the activities you identified in **Part A – Items 1 & 2**, please use the following table to list the “**Recreational Use Beaches**” (defined in the instructions) where the activities occur.

- Please provide beach name. Include the geographic (latitude and longitude) position if you know it.
- Please identify the beach access point(s) and the geographic (latitude and longitude) position if you know it.
- Please identify the source(s) of the geographic (latitude and longitude) position provided (e.g., GPS, map, etc.)
- Please include an estimate of beach length. Include geographic (latitude and longitude) positions for start and endpoints of each beach section if you know them or an estimated distance measurement.
- Please place an “X” below all activities that take place at each beach you identified.

Beach #	Location where activity occurs					Activity														
	Beach Name (provide beach name, road milepost, or other location description, and the latitude/longitude position)	Latitude/ longitude source: Beach location (GPS, map, etc.)	Beach Access (provide location of access or description)	Latitude/ longitude source: Beach access (GPS, map, etc.)	Beach Length (start & endpoint positions or distance measurement)	Swimming/bathing	Beach combing/walking	SCUBA	Surfing	Windsurfing	Kayaking	Boating	Hiking	Camping	Picnicking	Harvesting coastal marine resources	Other:	Other:	Other:	Other:
EX:1	Example: Roadside near Watson Point. Latitude: 52.100000, longitude: -175.900000	GPS	Milepost (road) Latitude: 52.100000, longitude: -175.900000	GPS	100 yards	X										X				
1																				
2																				
3																				

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Part B – Recreational Use Beaches, Item 1: Continued

Beach #	Location where activity occurs					Activity														
	Beach Name (provide beach name, road milepost, or other location description, and the latitude/longitude position)	Latitude/ longitude source: Beach location (GPS, map, etc.)	Beach Access (provide location of access or description)	Latitude/ longitude source: Beach access (GPS, map, etc.)	Beach Length (start & endpoint positions or distance measurement)	Swimming/bathing	Beach combing/walking	SCUBA	Surfing	Windsurfing	Kayaking	Boating	Hiking	Camping	Picnicking	Harvesting coastal marine resources	Other:	Other:	Other:	Other:
4																				
5																				
6																				
7																				
8																				
9																				
10																				
11																				

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Part B – Recreational Use Beaches: Continued

1. For each “**Recreational Use Beach**” and “**Activity**” you identified in the above table, **Part B - Item 1**, please use the following table to provide more specific information:

- Season of use
- Level of use
 - Estimated number of days the beach is used each year
 - Average number of beach users on each day of use
- Land ownership/Jurisdiction
- Contact person, (individual able to provide site-specific information) if known

NOTE: Enter the answer(s) that best fit the description of each “**Recreational Use Beach**” you have identified in **Part B - Item 1**.

Beach # (Assigned in Part B-Item 1)	Activity (You identified in Part B-Item 1)	Season(s) of use (Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter)	Level of use (score 1 to 4)		Land ownership/ Jurisdiction (State, Local, Tribal)	Contact Person (Name, Phone)
			(days per year) 1 = < 5 days/year 2 = 5-30 days/year 3 = 31-90 days/year 4 = > 90 days/year	(users per day) 1 = < 5 users/day 2 = 5-20 users/day 3 = 21-50 users/day 4 = > 50 users/day		
EX:1	Swimming	Summer	3	2	State	Erin Strang (907) 451-2881
EX:2	Harvesting coastal marine resources	Fall	3	1	State	Erin Strang (907) 451-2881

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Part B- Recreational Use Beaches, Item 2: Continued

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Part C - Potential Pollution Sources:

1. Place an "X" in the blank space(s) next to any potential fecal pollution sources that may exist in your coastal area.

☐ Sewage treatment plants
☐ Sewage lagoons
☐ Septic tanks/leach fields
☐ Landfills
☐ Storm drain outfalls
☐ Small boat harbors
☐ Small boat landings
☐ Commercial vessel docks
☐ Cruise ship/ferry/barge passages
☐ Seafood processing plants/cold storage
☐ Campgrounds
☐ Fish camps or logging camps
☐ Wild animals or birds

2. If there are any **OTHER** potential sources of fecal contamination in your coastal area, **not** listed above, please list them in the space provided below:

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Part C – Potential Pollution Sources: Continued

3. If any of the pollution sources identified in **Part C - Item 1** are within one (1) mile of any “**Recreational Use Beach**” you listed in **Part B** please identify the source(s) and the beach(es) in the table provided below.
- Please provide the beach number assigned in Part B.
 - Please place an “X” below all pollution sources within 1 mile of each beach you identify.

Beach #	Pollution Sources within 1 mile															
	Sewage treatment plants	Sewage lagoons	Septic tanks/leach fields	Landfills	Storm drain outfalls	Small boat harbors	Small boat landings	Commercial vessel docks	Cruise ship/ferry/barge passages	Seafood processing plants/cold storage	Campgrounds	Fish camps or logging camps	Wild animals or birds (indicate # of animals or birds/hour on a typical 50-yard length of beach)	Other:	Other:	Other:
EX:1	X						X				X					

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Part C – Potential Pollution Sources: Continued

4. If any of the pollution sources identified in **Part C - Item 1** are within one-quarter (1/4) mile of any “**Recreational Use Beach**” you listed in **Part B**, please identify the source(s) and the beach(es) in the table provided below:
- Please provide the beach number assigned in Part B.
 - Please place an “X” below all pollution sources within 1/4 mile of each beach you identify.

Beach #	Pollution Sources within 1/4 mile																
	Sewage treatment plants	Sewage lagoons	Septic tanks/leach fields	Landfills	Storm drain outfalls	Small boat harbors	Small boat landings	Commercial vessel docks	Cruise ship/ferry/barge passages	Seafood processing plants/cold storage	Campgrounds	Fish camps or logging camps	Wild animals or birds (indicate # of animals or birds/hour on a typical 50-yard length of beach)	Other:	Other:	Other:	Other:
EX:1							X				X						

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- 5. Thank you for your time and input!** The Recreational Beach Survey is now complete. Please return this survey to ADEC (submittal details identified in the **Fact Sheet**).

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